



FY 2012

Annual Interpretive Plan

Vicksburg National Military Park
Vicksburg, Mississippi



VICKSBURG
SESQUICENTENNIAL
1862-1863 - 2012-2013

FY 2012 ANNUAL INTERPRETIVE PLAN

Vicksburg National Military Park

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Introduction

Created by act of Congress in 1899 “In order to commemorate the campaign, siege, and defense of Vicksburg, and to preserve the history of the battles and operations of the siege and defense on the ground where they were fought and carried on. . .”, Vicksburg National Military Park is now entering the Sesquicentennial commemorations and observances of those events of 1862 and 1863 which proved to be the turning point of the American Civil War.

This Annual Interpretive Plan is promulgated in accordance with the park’s primary Interpretive planning document, the Long Range Interpretive Plan (June 2010), and covers programs, activities, exhibits, and other endeavors of the Interpretive Section of the park’s Operations Division for fiscal year 2012. Together with the Interpretive Database, the Annual Interpretive Plan forms the Comprehensive Interpretive Plan (CIP) for Vicksburg National Military Park.

Interpretive Mandate and Missions

“...to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

–NPS Organic Act, 1916

“National parks are among the most remarkable places in America for recreation, learning, and inspiration. Interpretive programs are the methods the Service uses to connect people to their parks, with opportunities for all visitors to form their own intellectual, emotional, and physical connections to the meanings and values found in the parks’ stories. Facilitating those opportunities through effective interpretive and educational programs will encourage the development of a personal stewardship ethic and broaden public support for preserving and protecting park resources so that they may be enjoyed by present and future generations.”

–Chapter 7, Interpretation & Education, NPS Management Policies, 2006

“In administering Vicksburg National Military Park, the Secretary shall interpret the campaign and siege of Vicksburg from April 1862 to July 4, 1863, and the history of Vicksburg under Union occupation during the Civil War and Reconstruction.”

–VNMP Enabling Legislation, as amended October 18, 1990

“Through the preservation and interpretation of its cultural, natural, and historical resources, VNMP employees and its partners provide opportunities for people to connect to this piece of history, enhancing their learning and personal experiences.”

–VNMP Mission Statement, LRIP, 2010

Purpose and Significance

Ideally, the criteria for creation of or designation as a National Park should be of the strictest nature, i.e., of such superlative natural beauty or significance that its preservation and access should be assured in perpetuity; or, in the case of those areas qualifying by historic criteria, of such significance that American, or even world history was greatly affected by the event or events that took place at that location. Vicksburg certainly qualifies in application of the latter standard. The surrender of Vicksburg to Union General Ulysses S. Grant in 1863, coupled with the concurrent Union victory at Gettysburg, clearly and concisely marked the turning point of the American Civil War. Although the war would last another 21 months before the Northern forces prevailed and the Union preserved, a Confederate victory at Vicksburg and/or Gettysburg would have meant the destruction of the nation that had formerly been and is today the United States of America.

In the process of Interpretive planning, each park sets forth in its Long Range Interpretive Plan statements of purpose and significance, and uses these as the cornerstone upon which to build its Interpretive programming and services. The Vicksburg National Military Park's Long Range Interpretive Plan states the following:

Vicksburg National Military Park Purpose

Congress established VNPA on February 21, 1899, "to commemorate the campaign and siege and defense of Vicksburg, and to preserve the history of the battles and operations of the siege and defense on the ground where they were fought and were carried on. . ."

In July 1862, Congress enacted legislation through an Omnibus Act, initiating the establishment of national cemeteries, "for the burial of deceased soldiers and sailors" . . .which included Vicksburg National Cemetery.

On September 17, 1990, Congress further directed the Secretary of the Interior to "interpret the campaign and siege of Vicksburg from April 1862 to July 4, 1863, and the history of Vicksburg under Union occupation during the Civil War and Reconstruction."

Vicksburg National Military Park Significance Statements

- Vicksburg's topography reveals unique features of steep ridges and ravines, loess terrain, and 200-foot bluffs, located on an oxbow of the Mississippi River. Though the river's course has changed, many of the land attributes and those of the overall Vicksburg campaign landscape persist today, identifying the area as a focus for settlement and a point from which to control the river.
- Control of the Mississippi River which supported and enhanced commerce throughout the nation and facilitated transport of essential military supplies

was a strategic objective of both armies and defined the Western Campaign of the Civil War. Simultaneous Union victories at Vicksburg and Gettysburg in July 1863 marked a decisive turning point in the Civil War. • Vicksburg's crossroads of river, rail, and highway combined with imposing defenses and a critical strategic objective, produced one of the most complex and protracted engagements of the Civil War involving joint operations between the Army and Navy, overland and over-water troop movement, and diversion, siege, and defense tactics.

- Accomplishments of the U.S. Colored Troops in the Vicksburg Campaign proved their resolve and ability to effectively fight, which resulted in an ensuing surge of enlistment and respect for their contributions.
- Following the siege of Vicksburg, the Union garrison that remained used Vicksburg as a base of operations for raids, expeditions, commerce, and communication that assisted Union operations for the remainder of the war.
- The *U.S.S. Cairo* is the only surviving city-class gunboat constructed using the most advanced technology of the era, including steam propulsion, ironclad armor, and shallow-draft design. This technology changed the strategy and tactics of naval warfare on western rivers and was essential to the Union fleet which aided in securing control of the Mississippi River.
- Vicksburg's society was transformed by war, enduring changes that ranged from deprivation and destruction of a prosperous community to liberation of formerly enslaved people.
- Reconstruction efforts following the war were reflected in changes occurring in regional and national politics, economies, and society as a whole. Vicksburg became a microcosm of these changes and consequences.
- The monuments at Vicksburg comprise one of the largest collections of significant outdoor art in the state and one of the most extensive in the world. Representing the states involved and through their intricate symbolism, they commemorate the campaign, siege, and defense of Vicksburg. Commemoration continues today as a result of national reunification.
- Vicksburg National Cemetery honors service men and women of several wars by properly caring for their remains. It contains the most Union Civil War soldiers' graves in the country including many of U.S. Colored Troops and those of unknown soldiers. The cemetery provides opportunities for personal connections with those who died during events that have shaped the present-day nation.

- VNMP is one of the first five national military parks established through the steadfast efforts of Union and Confederate veterans who experienced war firsthand over its grounds. It preserves a memorial owed to faithful soldiers and sailors, and perpetuates their history as permanent object lessons for the benefit of present and future generations, both nationally and internationally.
- As a piece of public domain, VNMP, with its natural, cultural, and historical resources, today plays a vital role in our nation's heritage and provides a place of peace, reflection, enjoyment, and community engagement.

Interpretive Themes

Over the past twenty years, the Interpretive philosophy of the National Park Service has gravitated towards a thematic approach in telling a park's story. The rationale for this has been that a wider audience may be better reached and more personal connections made between the visitor and the resource if monolithic or complex stories are broken down into different genres and perspectives. It is also hoped that this will appeal to a more diverse audience, as national demographics, ethnicity and socio-economic changes occur in the American population.

This issue was particularly underscored for Civil War battlefield units of the National Park Service, who, in the late 1990s, found themselves being criticized by some scholars and members of Congress for being too singular in their interpretive scope, and focusing strictly on their mandated stories of the battles, as stipulated in their enabling legislation. In 1998, and again in 2001, the NPS held a series of conferences called *"Holding the High Ground - Principles and Strategies for Managing and Interpreting Civil War Battlefield Landscapes"* and a symposium held at Ford's Theater in 2000 titled *"Rally on the High Ground"*

The result of all of the above was the directive to the NPS, and subsequently to all Civil War sites, to develop and implement a series of interpretive themes that would be inclusive of not only the military stories of each park, but also the civilian aspects and perspective, socio-economic conditions and differences, causal effects – specifically the institution of slavery, and long-term effects of the war, through Reconstruction and up to the modern era Civil Rights movement. The National Park Service has titled their official observance and commemoration of the Sesquicentennial as *"150 Years, Civil War to Civil Rights"*.

In the formulation of their interpretive themes, especially for the Sesquicentennial and/or development of Long Range Interpretive Plans, Civil War parks, including Vicksburg, were given a set of NPS national themes from *"Holding the High Ground"* to use as a matrix and template in the development and implementation of park themes and subthemes.

In compliance with the above directive from the Washington office, Vicksburg developed a series of themes and subthemes in our Long Range Interpretive Plan that future interpretive

planning and programming were to be based upon and clearly reflect. Through the utilization of these themes, park management expects that our interpretive programs, exhibits, and outreach efforts will become more inclusive, reach a larger and more non-traditional audience, and attract a more diverse demographic, including historically underserved groups, and allow these visitors to make a personal connection with the resource and understand the significance of the park story. As these themes will be constantly referred to for the remainder of this plan, I include those stated in the LRIP below:

Vicksburg Interpretive Themes

Primary interpretive themes are those ideas or concepts that every visitor should understand. They are the key ideas through which the park's nationally significant resource meanings and values are conveyed to the public. These themes provide the foundation for planned park experiences including interpretive programs, interpretive media and partnerships that support the delivery of the interpretive program. The themes do not include everything interpreted at the park, but rather the ideas that are critical to a visitor's understanding of the park's significance. All interpretive efforts should relate to one or more of the themes and each theme should be addressed in the overall interpretive program.

VNMP invites all visitors to explore the park and become immersed in its multi-faceted history from the American Civil War through the Reconstruction Era. Through this direct and personal experience, visitors will have opportunities to make personal connections to the park -- its resources and their inherent meanings; develop an understanding and appreciation for the difficult moments our Nation and its citizens have endured; and, discover why this national park is important to 21st century Americans and the international community. VNMP themes are listed below; the themes are numbered for easy reference.

Overall Interpretive Theme

The Vicksburg campaign and subsequent period of Union occupation through Reconstruction reveal complexities in executing a war and rebuilding a community.

Primary Interpretive Themes

The Military Experience: Strategy, Tactics, Technology and Humanity

- The Vicksburg campaign encompassed a complex and coordinated regional effort to control the Mississippi River. Success at Vicksburg achieved the Union's major objective of splitting the Confederacy in two and encircling it. In addition, the Union's simultaneous victories in Vicksburg, Mississippi and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania signaled the turning point of the American Civil War.

Sub-themes:

- The Anaconda Plan is attributed to General Winfield Scott, who proposed the strangling of the Confederacy by isolating it from its external markets and sources of war material. The ensuing blockade of the southern coasts and mastery of the Mississippi River culminated in the surrender of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863 and Port Hudson, Louisiana on July 9, 1863.
- Pemberton's Headquarters provides a glimpse into the workings of a Confederate Headquarters where strategies were developed and decisions made, including the decision to surrender Vicksburg on July 3, 1863.
- The July 4, 1863, surrender of Vicksburg resulted in significant losses for the Confederacy including the surrender of 30,000 Confederate defenders; the loss of 11% of Confederate artillery assets; and, coupled with the fall of Port Hudson five days later, the loss of immediate access to logistical support (manpower and supplies) from Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas, due to the Union gaining complete control of the Mississippi River.
- The accomplishments of the U.S. Colored Troops (USCT) during the Vicksburg Campaign at Port Hudson and Milliken's Bend demonstrated the resolve and ability of former slaves and freedmen to fight for their freedom. The attention received by the actions of the USCT resulted in a surge of enlistments. Ironically, while these events were pivotal in demonstrating to Union politicians and soldiers alike that USCT were loyal and effective supporters and defenders of the Union, USCT soldiers experienced outright hostility and ill-will. Many Northern soldiers did not want to associate with USCT on terms of equality.
- On both the national and local level, the utilization of the United States Colored Troops (USCT) during the Vicksburg campaign had a major influence on prisoner of war policy and prisoners of war (POWs), through the termination of the parole and trade system practiced by the Union and Confederate Armies. This change would have far reaching impacts. USCT and their white officers were not given the same treatment accorded white POW soldiers surrendering to Confederate forces. The enlisted USCT soldiers were classified as slaves in rebellion, and if not killed outright, they were placed back into bondage. Surviving evidence indicates that some USCT officers were shot, some sent to a POW camp. Deprivation and suffering was commonplace in all POW camps - neither side could adequately maintain enough foodstuffs to support the military, civilians and prisoners of war.

- The Vicksburg campaign is the culminating point in a series of campaigns that linked political, strategic, operational, and the tactical art of war. It is used as a model for present-day military operations and studies, including Operation Desert Storm.
- The Vicksburg campaign occurred during a period of significant evolutionary advances in technology, resulting in major changes in the conduct of war.

Sub-Themes:

- Naval aspects of the campaign equaled those of the army and demonstrated ingenuity and innovation. The Union planned to use the *U.S.S. Cairo* to assist with the Vicksburg siege. However, advanced technology intervened, and the gunboat was sunk by a new device – an underwater mine. A casualty of war, the *U.S.S. Cairo* stayed on the muddy bottom of the Yazoo River from 1862 until its salvage and raising in 1964.
- Preservation of the *U.S.S. Cairo* has given the world an ‘accidental time capsule,’ providing countless artifacts and information on the gunboat and its crew.

Siege and Fall of Vicksburg

- Civilians in Vicksburg endured a 47-day siege, an ordeal bringing out the fortitude and resilience of individuals to survive no matter the cost.

Sub-Themes:

- The civilian population of urban Vicksburg endured two occupations:
 - While the 1862 arrival of Confederate troops to construct fortifications on Vicksburg’s river bluff s offered residents increased protection, their presence stretched community resources. Later, as the Union Army pressed closer to the City’s defenses, the Confederate Army commandeered homes to support the war effort.
 - Following the Confederate surrender on July 4, 1863, the Union Army occupied Vicksburg as a conquered city and military base of operations until 1865; and later as a Federal garrison town where troops enforced the government’s reconstruction laws, policies and social experiments until 1875.

- The Union Army and Navy continually bombarded Confederate military emplacements, supply depots, and headquarters within the city during the siege of Vicksburg. Seeking refuge, residents dug caves into the hills and ravines throughout the city, and took many items from their homes to give some semblance of comfort. Although few residents were killed during the siege, many city buildings were badly damaged or destroyed.
- During the siege, the fate of all residents was uncertain. Tension, anxiousness and apprehension permeated all levels of white Vicksburg society as the Union Army advanced closer to Vicksburg. Enslaved Vicksburgers quietly monitored the success of the Army with carefully concealed enthusiasm and hope that freedom was near. In some instances, historical records illustrate that some enslaved Vicksburgers risked everything to support Union Army efforts.
- The Vicksburg campaign was the catalyst for reshaping black/white relationships in the Mississippi Valley. For enslaved Vicksburgers, Confederate General Pemberton's surrender to Union General Grant on July 4, 1863 represented the realization of the Emancipation Proclamation; and, for all residents reconstruction began. President Lincoln's reconstruction policies were implemented by the occupying Union Army still at war.

The Occupation of Vicksburg

- The military occupation of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863 and the emancipation of enslaved residents, unleashed a political battle over state sovereignty, civil rights, and the power of government to remake and police society; these struggles became iconic for the nation. The Union Army occupied Vicksburg from 1863-1875.

Sub-themes:

- During the Civil War, 30,000 refugees came to Vicksburg to seek the protection of the Union Army. General Grant requested Army Chaplain John Eaton, of the 27th Ohio Infantry to organize freedmen's camps and put 30,000 thousand black refugees back to work in Vicksburg. Eaton's pioneer efforts during the Civil War set the groundwork for the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (Freedmen's Bureau) at the war's end. The Bureau sought to improve the life of all wartime victims by setting up the first public schools in Vicksburg, negotiating written labor agreements between workers and plantation owners, and providing representation in court cases. The legacy of the Freedmen's Bureau in Vicksburg was mixed. In Vicksburg and throughout the South, the Freedmen's Bureau operated for five years following the Civil War.

- During Vicksburg's early period of occupation, gangs, lawlessness, and fear were part of the everyday life of Vicksburgers black and white. While Vicksburgers had experienced reconstruction first hand since July 4, 1863, the surrender at Appomattox, VA ended the Civil War and signaled a new phase for the Country. The re-establishment of Vicksburg's civilian government began on July 1, 1865; and a larger Union Army military presence would struggle to maintain an uneasy peace.

Reconstruction Period

- From 1865 – 1875, the Union Army, other Federal agencies and the Vicksburg, Mississippi civilian government struggled to find solutions to re-establish social and economic order after war. Vicksburg, Mississippi provides insight into the challenges, changes and consequences faced by residents and public officials during this period of American history.

Sub-themes:

- African Americans faced an unknown social environment that potentially offered new opportunities, but more frequently evidenced uncompromising racism. Some achievements include access to education, elected office, property, civil rights, and marriage. Vicksburg's Court House records reflect many marriages, a legal institution previously forbidden by law. African American Vicksburgers also suffered setbacks through the loss of civil rights by vigilante groups and government representation. White residents confronted societal change as well; former slaves were now social equals.
- Outside the City of Vicksburg in the more rural sections of Warren County, the complexities of rebuilding agricultural with a new type of contractual labor system - "sharecropping" - was initiated by local planters, army officials and representatives of the Freedmen's Bureau. Much of the workforce came from the camps in Vicksburg. Efforts to restart the local economy and provide a wage for the newly freed were fraught with challenges, misunderstanding, and hoaxes.
- Vicksburg's Court House records, Emma Balfour's journal – and other journals, diaries and letters written by residents, local newspapers and official US Army and Freedmen's Bureau records clearly attest to a period of radical change and continuing crises. After four years of war, new opportunities for former slaves were pursued in an atmosphere of chaos, distrust and continued racial discrimination by some – in spite of the presence of US Army and the arrival of

agencies legislated to bring about social and political change through Presidential and later Congressionally directed Reconstruction policies.

- Depending on one's perspective, "it was the best of times; and it was the worst of times" in post-Civil War Vicksburg. The political career of Peter Crosby, a Union Army veteran and former slave, exemplifies both hope and tragedy amidst the deep post-Civil War tensions in Vicksburg. Peter Crosby was elected Sheriff in 1873 intensifying racial tensions. Challenges to Sheriff Crosby's authority by vigilantes resulted in a race riot in December 1874 – a conflict that crossed the downtown area into the historic Civil War battlefield and beyond. Many were killed and numerous Vicksburgers were missing and unaccounted for. This tragedy deeply affected the community and the surrounding region.
- The occupation of Vicksburg by Federal troops enabled the formation of African American communities and the emergence of new social relationships in the region. During the reconstruction period, Vicksburg's Court House records reveal the reunification of families formerly separated under slavery and numerous marriages performed. African American churches became a centerpiece in the lives of the newly freed and separate churches were established in the community.
- The withdrawal of Federal troops from Vicksburg in 1875 signaled the return of home rule; and, consequently a return to the repressive society known to African American Vicksburgers before the Civil War. For almost one hundred years, white Southern Democrats held to power until the Civil Rights Movement in the mid-1960's set the stage for sweeping social and political change.

Commemoration

- Vicksburg National Cemetery and the monuments within VNMP exhibit the commitment of a grateful nation and its effort to honor sacrifices of soldiers and sailors, whose devotion to duty and shared war-time experiences, transcend the boundaries of North and South, reflecting a Nation reunited.

Sub-theme:

- Immediately following the Civil War, even in death, equal treatment did not occur. Today, Vicksburg National Cemetery honors all Americans who have given their lives in the service of this Country.
 - Burials at Vicksburg National Cemetery (VNC) reflected the social and political issues triggering the Civil War. USCT Soldiers were buried in separate sections at Vicksburg National Cemetery; while Confederate

soldiers (approximately 5,000 men) were buried in “Cedar Hill Cemetery”, the City’s cemetery, located in another section of Vicksburg, MS.

- Depending on the era, national days of honor such as Memorial/Decoration Day, Fourth of July and Veterans Day were sometimes opened to all and at other times segregated. During WWII the National Park Service adopted a policy of segregated services for the families honoring soldiers buried in Vicksburg National Cemetery; this practice was discontinued late in the 20th century.
- Vicksburgers of African American descent conducted some of their first public gatherings in Vicksburg National Cemetery. Their events were largely ignored by other residents, as the gatherings were held in a cemetery honoring 19,000 Union war dead – including United States Colored Troop soldiers. These Vicksburgers’ celebrated their freedom and freedom of speech by reading the Emancipation Proclamation; and, in so doing honored all who gave their lives for freedom and equality.

Stewardship: ‘Transforming the Environment’

- Today VNPA and Vicksburg National Cemetery are layered landscapes with historically significant features and commemorative elements from the 19th – 21st century. Guided by National Park Service policies, ongoing research, and new preservation methods and techniques, this landscape brings together the complexities of interpreting ongoing preservation efforts and the experiences of soldiers and residents during the campaign, siege, and occupation of Vicksburg, MS.

Visitor Experience Goals

Visitor experience goals describe what opportunities for physical, intellectual, and emotional experiences should be available for visitors to VNMP and Vicksburg National Cemetery (VNC). These experiences will be available to visitors of all abilities, including those with visual, auditory, mobility, or cognitive impairments.

Visitors to Vicksburg National Military Park will have opportunities to:

- Drive through the battlefield and cemetery; locate a point of interest or person buried in the cemetery; if able walk to that area; and make a personal connection to the purpose and significance of the park.
- Learn the mission of the VNPA, Vicksburg National Cemetery and the National Park Service; and, have the opportunity to become engaged in the preservation of

the park through stewardship projects sponsored by the park, park partners and/or participate in Volunteer-In-Parks opportunities.

- Contemplate, relax, and enjoy park resources safely and without pressure.
- Have their necessary comfort needs met.
- Acquire information and material to help them learn about themes before, during and after their visit.
- Experience the park resources regardless of physical ability.
- Find their way around the park without the need for assistance.
- Interact with the park staff informally and formally in a way that respects their personal and civil rights and their expectation to receive courteous treatment and factual information.
- Have opportunities to acquire a more comprehensive understanding of the issues and impacts surrounding the Civil War and the experiences of soldiers and residents – enslaved and free in Vicksburg, MS during the Civil War and Reconstruction eras.

2012 Interpretive Staffing, Personnel & Duty Assignments

Permanent Staff and/or FTE:

- **GS-11 Supervisory Park Ranger:** Duties and responsibilities involve all direct supervision of the Interpretive Section personnel and activities, scheduling, payroll, programming, hiring, training, performance appraisals, budget, special events, planning, operations and visitor services throughout the park. Also serves as park liaison and coordinator for the Vicksburg Licensed Battlefield Guides, and park Volunteer Coordinator. During leave, training or other situations resulting in staff shortages, supervisor will backfill Park Rangers in operating park venues, information desks, presenting programs, and other front-line interpretive duties. Additional responsibilities include formulation and implementation of projects and special initiatives and all other ancillary duties as assigned by the Superintendent and/or Chief of Operations.
- **GS-9 Park Ranger:** Currently serving as site manager for the *U.S.S. Cairo* and Museum. Duties and responsibilities include the preparation and presentation of interpretive programs, exhibits, posters, site bulletins, living history events and programs, and other interpretive activities and visitor services. He assists GS-5 Park Guides, Student Trainees and Seasonal employees in the preparation and

presentation of interpretive programs and written materials. Also assists in the training and mentoring of Student Trainees and Seasonal staff. Primarily responsible for insuring day to day operation and all visitor services, including audio/visual equipment, exhibits, formal/informal interpretive programs and roving interpretation at the *U.S.S. Cairo* and Museum, Vicksburg National Cemetery, and adjacent field sites (i.e. Fort Hill and Stockade Redan) in the northern end of the main park resource. Also serves as park liaison and coordinator for Eastern National, and as the alternate Historic Weapons Coordinator and Safety Officer. Additional responsibilities include formulation and implementation of projects and special initiatives and all other ancillary duties as assigned by the Superintendent, Chief of Operations, and/or Supervisory Park Ranger for Interpretation.

- **GS-9 Park Ranger:** Currently serving as site manager for the park Visitor Center (VC). Duties and responsibilities include the preparation and presentation of interpretive programs, exhibits, posters, site bulletins, living history events and programs, and other interpretive activities and visitor services. He assists GS-5 Park Guides, Student Trainees and Seasonal employees in the preparation and presentation of interpretive programs and written materials. Also assists in the training and mentoring of Student Trainees and Seasonal staff. Primarily responsible for insuring day to day operation and all visitor services, including audio/visual equipment, exhibits, formal/informal interpretive programs and roving interpretation at the VC, Living History Area, and adjacent field sites (i.e. Railroad Redoubt, 2nd Texas Redan, Battery DeGolyer, and Jackson Road complex) in the southern end of the main park resource. Also serves as park liaison and coordinator for college and university outreach and recruiting, as a member of the Park Safety Committee, and as the primary Historic Weapons Coordinator and Safety Officer. Additional responsibilities include formulation and implementation of projects and special initiatives and all other ancillary duties as assigned by the Superintendent, Chief of Operations, and/or Supervisory Park Ranger for Interpretation.
- **GS-5 Park Guide:** Serves as front line Interpreter at all park venues, special events, and off-site programs. Primary duties and responsibilities include staffing visitor contact/information desks at VC and *U.S.S. Cairo* Museum, operating the venues (audio/visual equipment, computers, phones, etc.), safeguarding exhibits, answering visitor inquiries about the park, the Vicksburg Campaign and the Civil War, and rendering other such visitor services as required. As primary point of contact he also serves as first responder to medical and other emergencies and for monitoring and maintaining a safe environment at staffed venues for visitors and employees. He also presents ranger talks, walks and programs for visitors, groups, and schools (both on and off-site); and engages in informal and roving interpretation throughout the park. Additional duties include park publications inventory and alternate Historic Weapons Coordinator and Safety Officer. He assists Supervisory Park Ranger and Park Rangers in training and mentoring of Student Trainees and Seasonal staff, as

well as all other ancillary duties as assigned by the Superintendent, Chief of Operations, and/or Supervisory Park Ranger for Interpretation.

- **GS-4 Student Trainee (SCEP):** Currently filling a 1.0 FTE GS-5 Park Guide position, and performing duties and responsibilities concomitant to full-performance levels for that grade and position. These include serving as front line Interpreter at all park venues, special events, and off-site programs. Primary duties and responsibilities include staffing visitor contact/information desks at VC and *U.S.S. Cairo* Museum, operating the venues (audio/visual equipment, computers, phones, etc.), safeguarding exhibits, answering visitor inquiries about the park, the Vicksburg Campaign and the Civil War, and rendering other such visitor services as required. As primary point of contact he also serves as first responder to medical and other emergencies and for monitoring and maintaining a safe environment at staffed venues for visitors and employees. He also presents ranger talks, walks and programs for visitors, groups, and schools (both on and off-site); and engages in informal and roving interpretation throughout the park. Additional duties include managing park internet social media sites, and he serves on the park Safety Committee. During the Summer, 2012 season, he will serve as the Lead Living History staff person, and will directly oversee the 40 hour per week Living History programs, two Living History Seasonal Park Guides, and up to a dozen Living History Volunteers-in-Parks (VIPs) who participate in the annual summer program. He assists the Supervisory Park Ranger and Park Rangers in training and mentoring of Seasonal staff and Living History volunteers, as well as all other ancillary duties as assigned by the Superintendent, Chief of Operations, and/or Supervisory Park Ranger for Interpretation.
- **GS-4 Student Trainee (SCEP):** Currently filling a 1.0 FTE GS-5 Park Guide position, and performing duties and responsibilities concomitant to full-performance levels for that grade and position. These include serving as front line Interpreter at all park venues, special events, and off-site programs. Primary duties and responsibilities include staffing visitor contact/information desks at VC and *U.S.S. Cairo* Museum, operating the venues (audio/visual equipment, computers, phones, etc.), safeguarding exhibits, answering visitor inquiries about the park, the Vicksburg Campaign and the Civil War, and rendering other such visitor services as required. As primary point of contact she also serves as first responder to medical and other emergencies and for monitoring and maintaining a safe environment at staffed venues for visitors and employees. She also presents ranger talks, walks and programs for visitors, groups, and schools (both on and off-site); and engages in informal and roving interpretation throughout the park. Additional duties include serving as alternate park webmistress. She assists the Supervisory Park Ranger and Park Rangers in training and mentoring of Seasonal staff, as well as all other ancillary duties as assigned by the Superintendent, Chief of Operations, and/or Supervisory Park Ranger for Interpretation.

Seasonal Staffing:

For FY2012, Vicksburg National Military Park expects to employ nine Seasonal employees between mid-May and the first week of August. Breakdown of positions and duties are as follows:

- **(1) GS-4 Seasonal Park Guide (Education).** This individual will be operationally tasked to the park's Education Specialist to assist her in preparing programs and material for teachers, and in assisting in the planning and implementation of the 2012 Junior Ranger day camp programs.
- **(6) GS-4 Seasonal Park Guides (Interpretation).** These individuals will be trained and mentored by permanent park Interpretive staff to operate the park's two visitor contact/information desks, as well as give ranger walks, talks and programs; and perform roving and informal interpretation at venues throughout the park.
- **(2) GS-4 Seasonal Park Guides (Living History).** These individuals will be trained and mentored by permanent park staff to perform Living History and Costumed Interpretation. They will give ranger talks and weapons demonstrations for park visitors, as well as perform roving and informal interpretation. They will assist park staff in oversight and supervision of Living History volunteers.

Licensed Battlefield Guides:

- Vicksburg National Military Park is one of only two of the National Military Parks (the other being Gettysburg) that utilize the Congressional legislation under 36 CFR 1, Part 25 providing authorization for individual contractors to be licensed through the park to act as battlefield guides.
- Currently (FY 2012), there are 20 Licensed Battlefield Guides serving Vicksburg National Military Park
- Statistically, the Guides are providing over 90% of all "field" interpretation, for the park – that being tours of the resource outside of the visitor contact stations – and handle the vast majority of school and group bus tours, as well as individual family car tours. Over the last several years, they have averaged over 900 car tours each year serving 2,000 visitors, and over 200 bus/group tours annually servicing over 7,500 visitors.

Living History Volunteers & Reenactor Groups:

- The biggest and longest running interpretive program at Vicksburg National Military Park is the Summer Living History Program. This program runs 40 hours per week from the first week of June through the end of July. Each year we average over 20 teenage volunteers who spend their summers doing costumed interpretation of Union and Confederate soldiers, giving formal and informal interpretive programs and weapons demonstrations with both Civil War musketry and artillery.
- Each year a number of Civil War reenactor groups come to the park to present Living History weekends. They bivouac on the historic battlefield and present visitors with a view of soldier's camp life, food and lifestyle, as well as interpretive programs and demonstrations of weaponry and maneuvers.
- During FY 2011, the Living History Volunteers and Reenactors donated over 5,000 hours to the park, and gave 432 demonstrations and programs to over 27,000 visitors.

Resources and Interpretive Venues

Vicksburg National Military Park consists of an 1800 acre primary resource, which includes and preserves the remnants of Union and Confederate lines, entrenchments, and fortifications; the majority of state memorials, monuments and regimental markers; the Shirley House (only original surviving period structure within the main park); the park's Visitor Center (VC), and the *U.S.S. Cairo* and Museum.

In addition, there are several "detached" resources: Pemberton's Headquarters in downtown Vicksburg; Grant's Canal across the Mississippi River in Delta, Louisiana; and Louisiana Circle, South Fort and Navy Circle, which are small sites preserving locations of Union and Confederate artillery batteries along the traditional river bluffs and also providing overlooks of the modern main channel of the Mississippi River.

Each venue lends itself to interpretation of one or more of the park's interpretive themes, and is identified as such in the LRIP. Unfortunately, budgetary and staffing constraints preclude full implementation of the interpretive vision expressed in the LRIP inasmuch as there was no increase in staffing to operate Pemberton's Headquarters as a public venue, nor to open the newly-renovated Shirley House to the public on a regular basis. Also, at this time, there is no budget or plan to install exhibits or historic furnishings in either venue.

The current baseline for interpretive and visitor services is to provide adequate staffing for the visitor contact/information desks at the park's Visitor Center and at the *U.S.S. Cairo* and Museum. This seven day per week tasking encumbers the majority of permanent staff and staff-hours available; but constitutes the only ranger contact or professional services most visitors will have. This falls primarily on the one GS-5 Park Guide and two GS-4 Student

Trainees, but both GS-9 Rangers spend a large amount of time on the information desks in addition to their other responsibilities. For purposes of interpretive staffing and utilization in FY 2012, we have the following goals and objectives:

Visitor Center:

Themes: Orientation movie, fiber optic map, museum exhibits and “vignettes” represent all park interpretive themes.

Staffing: The VC is open seven days per week and is the park’s primary visitor contact/information station. At minimum, one permanent interpretive Park Guide or Park Ranger will staff the VC Information Desk. During periods of heavy visitation, two staff members should be present, if available.

Interpretive Goals: In addition to providing information and visitor services at the desk, including answering visitor inquiries about the park, the Vicksburg Campaign and the Civil War, interpretive staff will utilize the new exhibit cabinets and floor space to prepare and show a number of different exhibitions on various park interpretive themes and special emphasis programs (i.e. Black History Month, Women’s History Month, National Park Week, etc.).

***U.S.S. Cairo* and Museum:**

Themes: Military Experience (Navy, Technology); African-American Experience (Navy, Vicksburg National Cemetery); Commemoration (Vicksburg National Cemetery).

Staffing: The *U.S.S. Cairo* and Museum is the secondary visitor contact/information station for the park, as it is located halfway through the 16-mile tour road, and is open and staffed seven days per week. At minimum, one permanent Park Guide or Park Ranger will staff the museum information desk. When additional staffing permits, a second Park Guide or Ranger will conduct formal interpretive tours of the boat, and/or engage in roving interpretation on and around the boat.

Interpretive Goals: The interpretive goals here are twofold: First, to interpret, explain and facilitate visitor understanding of and connection with this very unique resource – the *U.S.S. Cairo* itself and the accompanying museum filled with salvaged artifacts from the boat. Secondly, as this visitor contact station is halfway through the tour road and therefore at the approximate halfway point of each visitor’s park sojourn, to attempt to answer questions or provide any other interpretive service that might facilitate or enhance the visitor’s comprehension, connection or experience.

The Shirley House:

Themes: Civilian Experience (Shirley family); Military Experience (45th Ill. Infantry HQ, shebangs); African-American (Shirley family slaves, Reconstruction gang battle/lynching).

Staffing: There is no assigned or available permanent staff for Shirley House. But as the house just completed a \$1.6 Million renovation to the exterior and interior structure it is the emphasis of park management to have the building utilized for public events and open to the public whenever feasible. Inasmuch as 2012 is the first year that public access has been possible in over half a century, we have decided to “showcase” it when seasonal staffing so allows by having it open on Saturdays and Sundays during the summer season. It will be assigned as a rotational staffing duty station and serviced by seasonal rangers working out of the VC.

Interpretive Goals: Although the building has been extensively renovated, it is completely empty, containing no exhibits or historic furnishings. It is planned that the building will be opened for public tours, with Interpretive Rangers providing both roving and formal programs about the structure and those themes outlined above that relate to the venue.

Pemberton’s Headquarters:

Themes: Civilian Experience (Willis-Cowan House, surrounding historic neighborhood); Military Experience (used as command headquarters by Gen. Pemberton during siege).

Staffing: There is no assigned or available permanent staff for Pemberton’s Headquarters. As in the case of Shirley House, we plan on having the building open to the public on Saturdays during the summer when seasonal staffing so permits.

Interpretive Goals: Although the LRIP envisions Pemberton’s Headquarters as the primary venue for presenting the Civilian Experience of Vicksburg during the antebellum period, siege and military operations, and Reconstruction; and also as a venue to highlight the African-American theme as civilians and as USCTs during Reconstruction through museum exhibits and historic furnishings, this role for the venue has been placed on hold indefinitely. With the exception of some rather lackluster portable exhibits, the public area (downstairs) of the structure is vacant. Therefore, the focus for our summer interpretation will be acting as a “docent” at PHQ on those Saturdays that the venue is open to the public, giving house tours, and informal/roving interpretation. Also, if seasonal staffing permits, PHQ will be utilized as a base to provide ranger walks of the surrounding historic Vicksburg neighborhood.

Living History Area:

Theme: Military Experience (Weaponry, Soldiers' Lifestyle).

Staffing: The Living History Area (and Battery DeGolyer during July 4th holiday) is only utilized as an interpretive venue during the summer season when seasonal rangers and volunteers from local schools are on vacation and available. During the summer season, this venue is staffed eight hours per day, Friday through Tuesday.

Interpretive Goals: The Living History Area is set up and utilized as the primary venue for VNMP's Summer Living History Program featuring costumed interpretation of the environment, clothing, lifestyle, skills and weaponry of the Civil War soldier. Activities at this venue include formal interpretive talks and demonstrations of Civil War artillery, using the park's reproduction "12 lb Napoleon" cannon, as well as Civil War musketry. Between demonstrations, staff and VIPs engage the visitors in roving and informal interpretation, and answer questions about displays, weaponry, lifestyle, clothing, etc.

Park Tour Stops:

Themes: All LRIP park themes are represented, depending upon which tour stop utilized.

Staffing: Although utilized throughout the year by permanent staff for special interpretive events and anniversaries, i.e. first and second assault dates, ranger walks and talks at park tour road venues are only planned during the summer season as it relies on seasonal staffing.

Interpretive Goals: Being able to provide formal interpretive ranger walks and talks at those venues located within the park where critical and/or significant events took place or emplacements/operations were extent are and have always been fundamental interpretive goals and objectives. It is, however, precluded by staffing constraints other than during the summer season when staff augmentation gives adequate personnel to provide such interpretive services. During the 2012 summer season we will schedule a combination of formal walks/talks and roving interpretation for the following venues along the part tour road: Battery DeGolyer, Jackson Road (Shirley House, Illinois Monument, 3rd Louisiana Redan), 2nd Texas Lunette, Fort Hill and Vicksburg National Cemetery. Programs will be on a staff rotational basis with the VC servicing the first three and the *U.S.S. Cairo* providing staff for the last two.

Appendix A:

Annual Work Plan and Interpretive Programming

The Annual Work Plan and Interpretive Programming section is a “working” document, as it is subject to change as special directives and/or initiatives are received from Washington (WASO) and Atlanta (SERO); or requests and interpretive “targets of opportunity” present themselves here in Vicksburg. Due to the anticipated frequent changes and updates, I feel it is better formatted as an appendix to the Annual Interpretive Plan, and yet stand on its own as a program and work plan for the section.

As stated previously, the interpretive program at Vicksburg National Military Park is stratified in its prioritization, as directed in its LRIP. First and foremost the Interpretive Section shall staff and operate the visitor contact and information desks at the Visitor Center and *U.S.S. Cairo* and Museum. Staff time and resources not consumed by this base priority will be allocated to special programs, outreach and projects as directed by park management.

Sesquicentennial Anniversaries and Events:

For 2012, in addition to the usual and customary interpretive programs and priorities Vicksburg begins its Sesquicentennial anniversaries of the various campaigns aimed at taking/defending the city. These include:

- May 18 – July 24, 2012: 150th Anniversary of Farragut and U.S. Navy’s attempts to take Vicksburg.
- June 28 – July 24, 2012: 150th Anniversary of initial work on canal across DeSoto point to bypass Vicksburg (Williams’/Grant’s Canal).
- July 15, 2012: 150th Anniversary of the run of the *C.S.S. Arkansas* through Farragut’s fleet to Vicksburg.
- November 14 – December 21, 2012: 150th Anniversary of Grant’s Attempt to take Vicksburg overland from the north.
- December 12, 2012: 150th Anniversary of the sinking of the *U.S.S. Cairo*.
- December 24, 2012: 150th Anniversary of the Balfour Ball.
- December 24 – 29, 2012: 150th Anniversary of Sherman’s expedition against Vicksburg and Battle of Chickasaw Bayou.

For the purpose of observing and commemorating the above events we will attempt to partner with living history groups, volunteers and organizations, as well as the U.S. Navy, Old Court House Museum and other stakeholders with the intent of hosting, at best, living history weekend events for the first three anniversaries listed; and, minimally, to provide ranger talks and programs on or about the anniversary dates. We hope to partner with the U.S. Navy for a ceremony to be held at the *U.S.S. Cairo* marking the anniversary of its sinking; and possibly a wreath-laying and small ceremony marking the anniversary of the Battle of Chickasaw Bayou and the casualties suffered (1,776 Union; 207 Confederate). Logistically, all of the above are dependent upon staffing, volunteers, and budget; which are beyond our control and therefore worrisome, to say the least.

2012 Proposed Schedule of Cyclical Events and Programs:

- **October, 2011:**
 - October 1: Collaborate with “Black & Blue” event, Natchez, MS
 - October 21: U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Ceremony at the *U.S.S. Cairo* and Museum.
 - October 29: “Shadows of the Past” formal evening interpretive program consisting of facilitated group tours (led by costumed park staff and volunteers) to venues along the park tour road where, at pre-designated “stations” programs of first person interpretation will be given by uniformed or costumed personnel portraying actual personages of the Vicksburg area and campaign.
- **November, 2011:**
 - November 5-6: Programs/outreach to regional Boy Scout Jamboree at Utica, MS.
 - November 11: Volunteer day and programs for Entergy employees working on cleanup project in Vicksburg National Cemetery.
 - November 19: Program for Mississippi Genealogical Society.
- **December, 2011:**
 - December 10: VNMP Holiday Open House, Shirley House.
 - December 12: 149th Anniversary program for the sinking of the *U.S.S. Cairo* to be held at the boat and museum.
- **January, 2012:**
 - No special programs scheduled.
- **February, 2012:**
 - Black History Month; special exhibits, posters activities and programs scheduled.
 - February 4, 11: BHM outreach at Mississippi Welcome Center, Vicksburg.
 - February 17: BHM school outreach programs at Vicksburg Convention Center.

- February 18: BHM community outreach at Vicksburg Convention Center.
- February 18: BHM “Shape Up Vicksburg” walk and event at the Mississippi African-American monument in VNMP.
- **March, 2012:**
 - Women’s History Month; special exhibits, activities and programs.
 - March 3, 17: Special WHM programs and displays at Shirley House.
 - March 3: Regional Boy Scout Jamboree programs, VNMP.
 - March 31: Civil War Trust Park Day volunteers and program.
- **April, 2012:**
 - Special VC exhibits for “National Parks Week” to be in place all month.
 - April 3-8: Staff assistance to Shiloh Sesquicentennial.
 - April 14: “Tapestry” program and open house at Pemberton’s Headquarters.
 - April 21: VNMP Junior Ranger Day at *U.S.S. Cairo* and Museum.
 - April 21-29: National Park Week.
 - April 28: Staff assistance for educational/community outreach program at Catfish Row, Vicksburg.
- **May, 2012:**
 - May 1-4: Staff participation in “Civil War to Civil Rights” Webinar.
 - May 13: Seasonal EOD.
 - May 14-18: Seasonal Classroom Training
 - May 19-28 Seasonal/Living History “OJT” venue training.
 - May 19-20: Staff assist, “Trail of Honor”.
 - May 19: Staff assist “Shape Up” Junior Ranger program.
 - May 19: 149th Anniversary program for first assault.
 - May 20: 149th Anniversary programs for both assaults.
 - May 22: 149th Anniversary program for second assault.
 - May 25: Staff & Volunteers; set out Memorial Day flags in Vicksburg National Cemetery.
 - May 26-27: “Military through the Ages” special living history weekend event.
 - May 28: Memorial Day ceremony, VNC.
 - May 29-June 1: Living History VIP training.
- **June, 2012:**
 - June (various dates): Reading/Education and Community outreach programs at all branches of the Hinds County Library system.
 - June 2: Living History goes “live” at Living History Area.
 - June 2: Shirley House and Pemberton’s Headquarters open for season.
 - June 6: 149th Anniversary program for Milliken’s Bend.
 - June 9-10: 150th Anniversary programs for Williams’/Grant’s Canal (Sesquicentennial Event) at Grant’s Canal site, Delta, LA.
 - June 16-17: 150th Anniversary programs for Admiral Farragut and U.S. Navy’s arrival and attack upon Vicksburg (Sesquicentennial Event).

- June 18: Staff assist for USACE leadership camp.
- June 21: Staff assist for Educator's Symposium.
- June 23: Steele's Bayou Campaign Motorcycle Interpretive Tour.
- June 23-25: 149th Anniversary programs for explosion/assault on 3rd LA Redan.
- **July, 2012:**
 - July (various dates): continuation of Hinds Library outreach.
 - July 4: Living History moves to Battery Degolyer for 149th Anniversary program of Vicksburg surrender.
 - **July 14-15: 150th Anniversary programs (Sesquicentennial Event) for C.S.S. *Arkansas* battle at U.S.S. *Cairo* and Museum.**
 - July 16-20: Staff assist for VNMP Junior Ranger Day Camp.
 - July 28: Last day for Living History summer program.
- **August, 2012:**
 - August 4-5: Final days for open houses and programs at Shirley House and Pemberton's Headquarters.
 - August 11: Final day for seasonals and summer programs.
- **September, 2012:**
 - No formal programs/events scheduled.
- **October, 2012:**
 - October 19-21: Military reenactment of Vicksburg assaults at Raymond (non-NPS event). May observe, do staff assist.
- **November, 2012:**
 - November 10: Special first-person evening interpretive tour and programs in Vicksburg National Cemetery.
- **December, 2012:**
 - **December 8-9: Observance of 150th Anniversary (Sesquicentennial Event) of the sinking of the U.S.S. *Cairo* with ceremony at the venue.**
 - **December 12: Official commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of U.S.S. *Cairo* sinking with ranger talk/program at the boat.**
 - **December 29: Observance of 150th Anniversary (Sesquicentennial Event) of the Battle of Chickasaw Bayou.**

Interpretive Program Schedule Summer 2012



	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
8:30AM	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches			Life in the Trenches	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)
8:30AM - 4:30PM							Pemberton's HQ Open
9:00AM - NOON	Shirley House Open						Shirley House Open
9:00AM	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)			Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Artillery Program
9:00AM	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer
9:30AM	2nd Texas Lunette Walk	2nd Texas Lunette Walk	2nd Texas Lunette Walk	2nd Texas Lunette Walk	2nd Texas Lunette Walk	2nd Texas Lunette Walk	2nd Texas Lunette Walk
9:30AM	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches			Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches
10:00AM	Artillery Program	Artillery Program	Artillery Program			Artillery Program	Artillery Program
10:00AM	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program
10:00AM	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument
10:30AM	VNC Cemetery Walk	VNC Cemetery Walk	VNC Cemetery Walk	VNC Cemetery Walk	VNC Cemetery Walk	VNC Cemetery Walk	VNC Cemetery Walk
10:30AM	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches			Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches
11:00AM	Shirley House	Shirley House	Shirley House	Shirley House	Shirley House	Shirley House	Shirley House
11:00AM	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program
11:00AM	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)			Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)
11:30	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches			Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches
11:30	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill
12:30PM	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)			Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)
1:00PM	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program
1:00PM	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches			Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches
1:00PM - 4:00PM	Shirley House Open						Shirley House Open
1:30PM	3rd Louisiana Redan/Siege Ops	3rd Louisiana Redan/Siege Ops	3rd Louisiana Redan/Siege Ops	3rd Louisiana Redan/Siege Ops	3rd Louisiana Redan/Siege Ops	3rd Louisiana Redan/Siege Ops	3rd Louisiana Redan/Siege Ops
1:30PM	Artillery Program	Artillery Program	Artillery Program			Artillery Program	Artillery Program
2:00PM	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches			Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches
2:00PM	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program
2:30PM	VNC Cemetery Talk	VNC Cemetery Talk	VNC Cemetery Talk	VNC Cemetery Talk	VNC Cemetery Talk	VNC Cemetery Talk	VNC Cemetery Talk
2:30PM	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer	Battery DeGolyer
2:30PM	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)			Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)	Weapons & the Soldier (Rifle)
3:00PM	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program
3:00PM	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches			Life in the Trenches	Life in the Trenches
3:30PM	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument	Commemoration: Illinois Monument
3:30PM	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill	Fort Hill
4:00PM	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program
5:00PM.	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program	USS Cairo Boat Program

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Program adjustments are sometimes made due to staffing limitations or severe weather.
Check at Visitor Center Information Desk for Details.